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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/626,308	07/23/2003	William H. Berkman	CRNT-0150	1937

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EXAMINER

CROSLAND, DONNIE L

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2636

DATE MAILED: 08/16/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/626,308

Applicant(s)

BERKMAN ET AL.

Examiner

DONNIE L. CROSLAND

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-73 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-73 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6-9-04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement filed 6-9-04 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(1), which requires the following: (1) a list of all patents, publications, applications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office; **(2) U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications listed in a section separately from citations of other documents;** (3) the application number of the application in which the information disclosure statement is being submitted on each page of the list; (4) a column that provides a blank space next to each document to be considered, for the examiner's initials; and (5) a heading that clearly indicates that the list is an information disclosure statement. The information disclosure statement has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

A separate heading "Non Patent Literature Documents" must be provided for all of the listed application serial numbers from 233-255.

Specification

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because language such as "The present invention provides" is improper. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

In the amendment to the specification dated 4-26-04, line 4, "filed" should be reinstated.

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Claim 1 recites a power line communication system that includes a backhaul device, a first repeater in communication with the backhaul device via one or more power line conductors, a second repeater, a first PLC device in communication with the second repeater via one or more power line conductors, and wherein the first repeater is communicatively coupled to the second repeater via a communication link that forms part of a data path between the backhaul device and the first PLC device.

Claim 27 recites a system for providing communications over power lines comprising a backhaul device, a first repeater, a second repeater, a PLC device, a first communication link communicatively coupling the backhaul device and the first repeater and comprised of a first power line data path; a second communication link communicatively coupling the first repeater and the second repeater; and a third

communication link communicatively coupling the second repeater and the PLC device comprised of a second power line data path.

Claim 35 recites a system for providing communications over power lines comprising a first group comprising a plurality of PLC devices; a first repeater communicatively coupled to at least one of the plurality of PLC devices of the first group; a second PLC device; a second repeater communicatively coupled to the second PLC device; wherein the second repeater is in communication with the first repeater via a communication link; and wherein the first group is communicatively isolated from the second PLC device.

Claim 37 recites a system for providing communications over power lines comprising a first group comprising a first plurality of PLC devices; a first repeater communicatively coupled to at least one of the PLC devices of the first group; a second group comprising a second plurality of PLC devices; a second repeater communicatively coupled to at least one of the PLC devices of the second group; wherein the second repeater is in communication with the first repeater via a communication link; and wherein data signals transmitted from the second group are not intelligible by the PLC devices of the first group.

Claim 46 recites a power line communication system employing one or more power line conductors comprising a backhaul device comprising a backhaul wireless transceiver and a first modem, wherein the first modem is in communication with the backhaul wireless transceiver and communicatively coupled to at least one of the power line conductors; a plurality of power line communication devices, each comprising a

PLC transceiver and a first PLC modem, wherein the first PLC modem is in communication with the PLC transceiver and communicatively coupled to one of the power line conductors; and wherein the PLC modem is in communication with the first modem of the backhaul device via one or more power line conductors.

Claim 62 recites a method of providing power line communications over a power line, comprising at a first PLC device: receiving first data transmitted from a first user device; transmitting the first data over the power line; at a backhaul device: receiving the first data from the power line; and wirelessly transmitting the first data.

Conclusion

This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

Note the formal matters above.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DONNIE L. CROSLAND whose telephone number is 571-272-2980. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 9:30a-6:00p.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JEFFERY HOFSSASS can be reached on 571-272-2981. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



DONNIE L. CROSLAND
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2636

Dlc
8-11-05